Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 04681 141332Z

53
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
---------- 003882
O 141300Z MAY 76
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4253

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 4681

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO THE WHITE HOUSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARAMANLIS, CONSTANTINE) GR US
SUBJ: CARAMANLIS VISIT TO THE US

REF A. ATHENS 2694 B. STATE 056370

1. IN MY MEETING THIS MORNING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS I DID MY UTMOST TO TRY AND ARRANGE FOR AN ANNOUNCEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS' ANTICIPATED OFFICIAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON JUNE 15-16. I TOLD BITSIOS THAT IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR THE VISIT TO BE ANNOUNCED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND, IF POSSIBLE, TODAY. I SAID THERE WAS ONLY A MONTH REMAINING BEFORE THE VISIT AND THAT WE HAD TO MOVE AHEAD AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE WITH ALL ASPECTS OF PLANNING AND PREPARING SO THAT THE VISIT WOULD BE A SUCCESS IN EVERY RESPECT. I REMINDED HIM THAT WE HAD WANTED TO ANNOUNCE THE VISIT OVER TWO MONTHS AGO AND ONLY WITH THE GREATEST RELUCTANCE HAD GONE ALONG WITH CARAMANLIS' DESIRE TO DEFER THE ANNOUNCEMENT UNTIL MID-MAY. I GAVE BITSIOS ANOTHER COPY OF OUR PROPOSED TEXT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT, AS CONTAINED PARA 2, REF B.

2. BITSIOS SAID HE WAS SORRY BUT HE SAW NO POSSIBILITY OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT BEING AUTHORIZED FOR RELEASE TODAY.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ATHENS 04681 141332Z

HE SAID THAT AS I KNEW HE HIMSELF HAD RETURNED TO GREECE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

ONLY ON THE EVE OF MARSHALL TITO'S VISIT BEGINNING
MONDAY OF THIS WEEK AND THAT HE AND CARAMANLIS HAD BEEN
FULLY OCCUPIED WITH TITO AND OTHER PRESSING MATTERS
THESE PAST FEW DAYS. THEN, FOLLOWING TITO'S DEPARTURE
YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, CARAMANLIS LEFT EARLY THIS
MORNING WITH AVEROFF, MOLYVIATIS AND OTHERS FOR A VERY
IMPORTANT VISIT TO SEVERAL PARTS OF NORTHERN GREECE.
IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO CLEAR THIS ANNOUNCEMENT WITH
CARAMANLIS BEFORE SUNDAY AT THE EARLIEST AND BITSIOS
STRONGLY PREFERRED TO WAIT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 17 TO TAKE
THE MATTER UP WITH CARAMANLIS. HE SEEMED TO RECALL THAT
CARAMANLIS HAD BEEN WILLING WHEN THIS SUBJECT CAME UP
SOME WEEKS BACK TO CONSIDER THE MATTER AND PERHAPS
GO AHEAD WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT THE WEEK OF MAY 17.
(COMMENT: BITSIOS, OF COURSE, IS CORRECT; OUR
EARLIER UNDERSTANDING WITH CARAMANLIS -- AS REPORTED
ATHENS 2694 -- WAS THAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS ENVISAGED
FOR SOMETIME DURING THE WEEK OF MAY 17.)

3. I STRESSED THE NEED TO GET ON WITH THE MATTER
WITHOUT ANY FURTHER DELAY AND BITSIOS FINALLY AGREED TO
TRY AND REACH MOLYVIATIS BY TELEPHONE IN NORTHERN
GREECE. HOWEVER, HE WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT WE COULD
HAVE A DECISION ON A PROPOSED ANNOUNCEMENT DATE BEFORE
MONDAY, MAY 17 AT THE EARLIEST. WE AGREED TO STAY IN
TOUCH OVER THE WEEKEND IN THE EVENT IT PROVED POSSIBLE
TO GET CARAMANLIS' CONCURRENCE.

4. COMMENT: I HAVE ALSO TRIED TO REACH MOLYVIATIS
BY TELEPHONE MYSELF, WITHOUT SUCCESS THUS FAR. HE IS
DUE BACK IN ATHENS SUNDAY AND I SHALL OF COURSE
FOLLOW UP WITH HIM -- AS CHARGE STEARNS HAS BEEN DOING
REGULARLY IN MY ABSENCE. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT OUR
INABILITY TO OBTAIN CARAMANLIS' CONCURRENCE THUS FAR
TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT REFLECTS ANYTHING MORE THAN HIS
ORIGINALLY ENVISAGED TIMETABLE OF SOMETIME DURING THE
WEEK OF MAY 17, NOR HAVE I ANY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT
HE IS HAVING ANY SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT THE CONTENT AND
PROPOSED TEXT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT. HOWEVER, WE SHALL
HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE, AND I WILL SEND ANOTHER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ATHENS 04681 141332Z

MESSAGE ON THIS SUBJECT AS SOON AS I HAVE
SOMETHING FURTHER TO REPORT. KUBISCH

CONFIDENTIAL

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ATHENS04681
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760186-1093
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760555/aaaabvej.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 ATHENS 2694, 76 STATE 56370
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CARAMANLIS VISIT TO THE US
TAGS: OVIP, GR, US, (CARAMANLIS, CONSTANTINE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006